

President's Report to McMaster University's Board of Governors June 8, 2023

Spotlight on Engaging Local, National, Indigenous and Global Communities

As one of the world's leading universities, with a long history of engagement with our surrounding communities, McMaster has a critical role to play in the transformation of Hamilton, our region, our country and globally. We are equally committed to working closely and respectfully with Indigenous communities to advance Truth and Reconciliation across our campus and beyond.

As such, we continue to work toward our strategic goal of “further developing and expanding our network of longstanding and respectful partnerships with communities, partners, research collaborators and supporters for the benefit of all.”

Progress in the area of engaging local, national, Indigenous and global communities over the past year includes:

- The launch of Indigenous Strategic Directions, an Indigenous education and research strategy that recognizes the unique position of Indigenous peoples within our community and society
- The creation of the Indigenous Studies Department, which is built on the long-standing Indigenous Study Program
- The Office of Community Engagement formalized a community partnership with the Hamilton Anti-Racism Centre to address systemic racism in the city of Hamilton
- The creation of the Community Research Platform, a community/university research partnership that helped facilitate 18 community engaged research projects with community partners, and led to 18 student placements with community partners
- McMaster's six Faculties and the Provost collectively pledged \$800,000 toward two new funds to support displaced students and scholars at risk around the world, including Afghanistan and Ukraine
- Student participation in the McMaster Exchange Program has tripled since 2010, The program offers more than 100 opportunities with leading universities around the world, offering students to gain a global perspective while earning credits abroad.

I would like to highlight further advances in this important priority area.

ENGAGING LOCAL COMMUNITIES

Partnering to Address Hate Reporting in Hamilton

In 2018, McMaster, the City of Hamilton, and the Hamilton Centre of Civic Inclusion (HCCI) partnered to create the Hamilton Anti-Racism Resource Centre (HARRC), an organization aimed at gathering information about racism-related issues in Hamilton, and providing resources for those affected by racism or hate crimes.

Working in collaboration with HCCI and the Academic Director of Community Engaged Research and Relationships in McMaster's Office of Community Engagement, HAARC is in the process of developing an online, community-based hate reporting platform, *WeSupportHamilton*, which will provide a mechanism for individuals to share their experience of hate, and help them navigate existing systems to

address their needs. On this platform, individuals can report or tell their story, and access resources to help them understand the options that may be available, including supports related to healthcare, employment, education, housing, community safety, legal and other resources.

HARRC's goal is complete a working version of the *WeSupportHamilton* platform this spring to share with community members for feedback. This collaborative project will play an important role in helping to address the historical, social, and systemic issues and barriers experienced by so many in our community, and is a reflection of McMaster's commitment to work in principled partnership to address both community and University priorities.

City Lab

I am pleased to share that CityLAB, which was developed as a pilot project in 2017 to provide a hub for student innovation and collaboration with the City of Hamilton, community partners, and Hamilton-area post-secondary institutions, has now been made a permanent program.

CityLAB brings together students, faculty and staff from McMaster, Mohawk College and Redeemer University, with staff from the City of Hamilton, and community stakeholders to develop and implement solutions to real community and civic challenges faced locally. Key to CityLAB's success has been its central location in downtown Hamilton, adjacent to Hamilton City Hall, that has helped embed students into the Hamilton community, and provide a space for students to learn from and collaborate with City staff and members of the community.

Since CityLab was launched, more than 158 community partnerships have been formed; 60,000 hours have been contributed by 2,531 students, in partnership with 88 City of Hamilton staff and involving 68 faculty members from McMaster, Mohawk College and Redeemer University.

Among CityLAB's innovative academic programming is the CityLAB Semester in Residence (SIR), a project-based, experiential course that incorporates intensive workshops, field trips, and dialogue sessions with City staff and community members. Throughout the term, students work in interdisciplinary teams to apply their theoretical knowledge and skills to a real-life project identified by City staff. This year, 30 upper-year undergraduate students worked on projects focused on examining solutions to a range of housing challenges faced by the City. Students had the opportunity to present their findings to the Emergency & Community Services Committee at City Hall in December and respond to questions from councillors.

CityLab and its unique programming is an excellent example of how post-secondary institutions can connect students with community to provide valuable experiential learning opportunities that not only enrich student learning, but also make a difference in our community.

Supporting Community Research Needs

Since its launch in 2016, the McMaster Research Shop has connected students at all levels with local public, non-profit and community organizations to work on collaborative research projects, helping organizations make evidence-informed decisions and do research-grounded advocacy, while providing students with valuable experience in collaborative research that responds to practical, real-world questions.

The first program of its kind among Canada's U15 universities, and developed by the Office of Community Engagement, the Research Shop has continued to serve the research needs of community organizations. Between September 2022 and April 2023, 56 undergraduate and graduate students,

working under the supervision of Research Shop staff, contributed approximately 4,480 student volunteer hours to addressing 12 research projects developed with community partners.

Projects include a scoping review of the extent and impact of Islamophobia in the healthcare system to support the advocacy work of the Muslim Advisory Council of Canada. In another project, students worked with the Greater Hamilton Health Network to conduct a process and outcomes evaluation of a drop-in health service program for women and gender-diverse individuals.

As a result of the outstanding research training and mentorship students receive, the Research Shop Program has become an important co-curricular opportunity for students, supporting high-quality experiential learning opportunities for students, and fostering a spirit of creativity, mutual learning, openness, and trust with community partners.

Yaffle Community Partnership Platform

With the support of Research Impact Canada, the McMaster Office of Community Engagement is collaborating with York and Bishops Universities to pilot the expansion of the Yaffle community partnership platform.

Developed by Memorial University in 2009, the Yaffle platform is designed to facilitate connection and collaboration between campus and community members. McMaster's iteration of Yaffle will act as an evolving and open-access database of community engagement by providing campus and community members with an easy-to-use and interactive website that will enable individuals to create profiles, connect with potential partners, promote collaboration opportunities, and share their community engagement projects with a wide audience, streamlining the creation of campus community partnerships at McMaster.

Interdisciplinary Minor in Community Engagement

McMaster's [interdisciplinary minor in Community Engagement](#) continues to be an important opportunity for students to deepen their understanding of communities, while developing skills for principled and effective engagement with a range of communities both locally and globally.

Over the past year, we have continued to evolve the high-quality community-engaged program offerings available as part of the minor. In Fall 2022, CityLab's Semester in Residence program was expanded to include a tri-partite engagement with City of Hamilton staff, students and community organizations. As well, collaboration with McMaster Children and Youth University has expanded through the addition of a suite of courses aimed at training students to develop and deliver interdisciplinary workshops in Hamilton public schools. To support community-engaged learning, the Office of Community Engagement (OCE), in partnership with faculty across campus, also developed a free online textbook, [which is now available on the e-campus platform](#). In addition, the OCE is serving as a consultant to other universities considering similar interdisciplinary, community-engaged education programs, and is also collaborating with other interdisciplinary, community-focused academic programs at McMaster as part of the University's Interdisciplinary Minors working group.

The opportunities developed as part of the minor are not only advancing our collective goal of developing engaged and thoughtful citizens, they are also establishing McMaster as a sought after partner, and local and national leader in community engagement, social innovation and social impact.

ENGAGING INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

UN Water Conference

In March, members of the [Ohneganos](#) water research project led by Dawn Martin-Hill, a professor in the Indigenous Studies and Anthropology departments, hosted a side event at the 2023 United Nations Water Conference held in New York City.

The event, titled *Kayanní:yo ‘A Good Path,’* featured a panel discussion that focused on how Indigenous ecological knowledge can be used in conjunction with western science to protect water and ecosystems. As part of the discussion, Dr. Martin-Hill highlighted the ongoing efforts to address water security issues in Six Nations of the Grand River, which is the focus of Ohneganos’ work.

Presenting alongside Dr. Martin-Hill were Betty Lyons, executive director of the American Indian Law Alliance, Beverley Jacobs from the University of Windsor, John Pomeroy, director of Global Water Futures, Makaša Looking Horse, youth lead at Ohneganos, Nidhi Nagabhatia from the UN University, Lori Davis Hill, acting executive director at McMaster’s Indigenous Health Learning Lodge, Karissa John, community coordinator at Ohneganos, and Sub-Chief and Faithkeeper Leroy (Jock) Hill, Six Nations hereditary Confederacy Council.

This event was an important, high-profile opportunity to shine a light on a critical issue impacting Six Nations of the Grand River and many other Indigenous communities across Canada, and to recognize the unique insights, knowledge, and expertise Indigenous scholars are bringing to address pressing local, national and global issues.

Connecting to Support Indigenous Learners

Indigenous staff, faculty, and Elders and Knowledge Keepers at McMaster recently hosted their colleagues at two gatherings held on campus. These meetings exemplify the many ways in which Indigenous staff, faculty and others are connecting and working in collaboration with experts at other post-secondary institutions to support the success of Indigenous learners.

The COU Reference Group on Aboriginal Education

On May 4 and 5, McMaster welcomed Indigenous leaders from across Ontario for a meeting of the Council of Ontario Universities Reference Group on Aboriginal Education. The group, which is co-chaired by Shylo Elmayan, director of Indigenous Student Services at McMaster, meets three times a year to share best practices in supporting Indigenous students and identifying gaps and goals in Indigenous Education.

This meeting included educators, counsellors, and administrators from universities across Ontario who are working to build education and development opportunities to enable Indigenous students to access learning, and thrive on their learning journey. Rebecca Jamieson, the president of Six Nations Polytechnic and McMaster Board of Governors member, joined the meeting to share the work of the provincial Indigenous Institutes Consortium, an organization dedicated to advancing post-secondary Indigenous education innovation.

Meeting of Indigenous Elders and Knowledge Keepers

Elders and Knowledge Keepers from several universities across Ontario gathered recently in the Indigenous Studies and Student Services centre at McMaster.

Each of these individuals holds a special and unique role within their university. At McMaster, the role of Elders and Knowledge Keepers is to increase awareness and understanding of history, traditions, and culture for all students by providing them with access to Elders who are actively engaged in their communities and culture.

Elders and Knowledge Keepers from the Indigenous Health Learning Lodge and Indigenous Student Services represented McMaster at the gathering, which was focused on connecting as a community and sharing best practices on ways to work with students, staff and faculty. Guests were also treated to a tour of campus led by staff from Facilities Services, and McMaster Indigenous students took part in the gathering, performing at a reception and assisting the Elders during the meetings.

The Biindigen Well-Being Centre

To improve access to primary care and provide students with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of Indigenous knowledge, McMaster's Department of Family Medicine is partnering with the De dwa da dehs nye>s Aboriginal Health Centre to create the Biindigen Well-Being Centre in Hamilton.

Located in the McQuesten neighbourhood, which is home to a significant urban Indigenous population, the Centre will offer welcoming, culturally safe health care and related supports for residents that are based on Indigenous ways of knowing and being. The Centre will also include offices of Niwasa Kendaaswin Teg, a multiservice Indigenous organization, as well as Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services, and will allow for the development of curriculum in Indigenous health, creating immersive and impactful opportunities for students.

This collaboration is an exciting development for both McMaster and the Hamilton community, as it will provide Indigenous community members with much-needed access to primary care in the McQuesten neighbourhood, while deepening students' understanding of Indigenous knowledge.

Indigenous Astronomy Initiatives

In response to the recommendations of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, McMaster's Physics and Astronomy Department in the Faculty of Science, have undertaken a number of initiatives to recognize and share Indigenous astronomy knowledge.

Developed by faculty members in the School of Interdisciplinary Science and the Integrated Sciences program, and in partnership with Indigenous faculty and staff, the initiatives aim to build on existing efforts to share Indigenous astronomical stories, and incorporate Indigenous astronomy knowledge into higher education.

Initiatives include the purchase of a portable planetarium to bringing the planetarium experience to communities, including Indigenous communities, who may face barriers in coming to campus; [developing new planetarium shows](#) in conjunction with Indigenous elders and storytellers from across Canada; and the development of a second-year course based on Indigenous and Euro-centric perspectives on Astronomy, created in consultation with McMaster's Indigenous Education Council (IEC).

These initiatives are excellent examples of the innovative ways in which McMaster faculty are coming together to meaningfully engage with Indigenous communities, decolonize science education and share Indigenous ways of knowing across the University.

ENGAGING GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

International Student Recruitment Strategy

International students play a unique and vital role at McMaster. They bring valuable global perspectives that enrich our campus community and the richness of our academic programs, and contribute to our research capacity.

Recognizing the critical importance of international students, McMaster has launched a review to guide the development of one, coordinated institutional international student recruitment strategy.

Led by the Provost and facilitated by an external consultant, the review will provide insight into the current international student landscape and best practices in recruitment strategies that can help McMaster build a distinct and comprehensive approach to expanding, diversifying and supporting the university's international student population.

Focus groups, surveys and consultations will strengthen the review and its recommendations. The first, fact finding stage of the review will be completed later this summer. The second phase to develop the new strategic approach will continue through the fall in collaboration with academic and other university leaders. The final report will be delivered to the Provost.

U21 Education Symposium

At the end of June, McMaster will host the 2023 Universitas 21 Educational Innovation Symposium, and will welcome colleagues from around the world to discuss the challenges and opportunities faced by post-secondary institutions globally.

The symposium, which will bring colleagues together in-person for the first time in four years, includes three days of keynote addresses and workshops. It will also provide an opportunity to explore the global strategic context for teaching and learning development, and discuss the strategic challenges and issues facing research-intensive universities. Discussions will also focus on possible responses to these issues and explore potential collaborations across the network to enhance the capacity of individual institutions to address them.

This symposium presents an excellent opportunity to explore new international partnerships in support of research and academic excellence.

New Director of the Office of International Affairs

I am pleased to report Dr. Amira El Masri has joined McMaster as the new Director of the Office of International Affairs. In this role, Dr. El Masri support McMaster's global engagement efforts and collaborate with others to envision meaningful and reciprocal ways to engage with international partners to enrich our teaching, learning, research, and community service.

Dr. El Masri comes with a wealth of academic and practical experience in international education and partnership development in higher education. She has worked in a range of senior international education strategy-oriented roles nationally and internationally, and is an [award winning](#) researcher and has taught courses at universities in Canada and internationally.

As a scholar-practitioner, Dr. El Masri's professional experience is informed by her academic and research interests. She earned her Ph.D. from the Faculty of Education at York University. Her doctoral research, funded by the Joseph Bombardier - SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship Award, was a critical policy study of Ontario's international education policymaking.

I'm pleased to welcome Dr. El Masri to McMaster, and wish her all the best as she begins her work to enhance McMaster's efforts in the important area of international engagement.

Supporting Global Healthcare Systems

Over the past year, the [COVID-19 Evidence Network to support Decision-making](#) (COVID-END) has continued to serve as a critical resource, providing policy makers and healthcare professionals – nationally and internationally – with the best available evidence to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since its inception, COVID-END has engaged more than 50 of the world's leading evidence-synthesis, technology-assessment, and guideline-development groups, covering the full spectrum of pandemic-response decisions including evidence related to public-health measures, clinical management, health-systems arrangements, and economic and social responses. More than 270 rapid syntheses, living evidence syntheses, plain language summaries and infographics were produced between November 2021 and March 2023, supporting clinical practitioners and the public health response to COVID-19 world-wide.

This network exemplifies McMaster's tremendous capacity to collaborate with the international research community to address the world's most pressing issues.

CAMPUS UPDATES

INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

[African-Caribbean Faculty Association wins global award for tirelessly supporting Black excellence](#)

An organization that has been the driving force behind many initiatives to foster potential and support Black scholars, students and staff at McMaster has been recognized with a prestigious international award. The [African-Caribbean Faculty Association of McMaster, or ACFAM](#), received the 2023 U21 Award from Universitas 21, a global network of 28 world-leading, research-intensive universities, including McMaster, that focus on collaboration and internationalization.

TEACHING AND LEARNING

[McMaster, industry learners establish undergraduate nuclear research experience program](#)

McMaster University, Canadian Nuclear Laboratories (CNL) and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) have launched a new program to enrich learning and real-world experience in nuclear research for McMaster undergraduate students. The CNL Nuclear Undergraduate Research Experience program provides funding to allow students enrolled in Level II or above in the Faculties of Engineering and Science to develop research and technical skills in the nuclear field. The program is part of the [partnership established last year between McMaster, CNL and AECL](#) to advance nuclear research, education and training.

Partnerships in teaching and learning: spotlight on year 2 implementation grant projects

With 2023-24 [Partnered in Teaching and Learning grant applications](#) now open and in celebration of [Teaching and Learning Month in May](#), we connected with some of last year's Partnered in Teaching and Learning grant recipients to see how their work has brought collaboration and partnership to life in teaching and learning communities across McMaster.

Art meets (health) science in new collaborative anatomy class

It's a Tuesday evening. Three McMaster art students are in the anatomy lab in the basement of the Health Sciences Centre, sketching beside some Health Sciences students, who are dissecting a cadaver. Art students at McMaster have long followed in the footsteps of legendary artists like Leonardo da Vinci and Mansur Ibn Ilyas, drawing preserved specimens of bones, organs, and structures, as well as bodies that have been generously donated for the purposes of education and research. Now, a more formal arrangement has students from the School of the Arts learning their craft alongside Faculty of Health Sciences students in the interprofessional education (IPE) dissection course.

RESEARCH AND SCHOLARSHIP

Scientists use AI to find promising new antibiotic to fight evasive hospital superbug

Scientists at McMaster and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) have used artificial intelligence to discover a new antibiotic which could be used to fight a deadly, drug-resistant pathogen that strikes vulnerable hospital patients. The process they used could also speed the discovery of other antibiotics to treat many other challenging bacteria. The researchers were responding to the urgent need for new drugs to treat *Acinetobacter baumannii*, identified by the World Health Organization as one of the world's most dangerous antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Notoriously difficult to eradicate, *A. baumannii* can cause pneumonia, meningitis and infect wounds, all of which can lead to death.

Nuclear Operations & Facilities welcomes new Director, Nuclear Research and Education Support

Nuclear Operations & Facilities (NO&F) is pleased to announce that [Karin Stephenson](#) has joined NO&F as McMaster's first Director, Nuclear Research and Education Support. Stephenson will be a key member of McMaster's nuclear leadership team, supporting and advancing the University's world-class nuclear research and education programs, says Assistant Vice-President, Nuclear, Dave Tucker. Stephenson will support a number of projects that will expand McMaster's nuclear and radiation-based research and education profile and increase access to facilities, equipment and experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. Additionally, she will work to strengthen NO&F's current partnerships and identify new partnerships with national and international industry and academic leaders in nuclear medicine and radiopharmaceuticals, small modular reactor research and deployment and materials science.

Researchers develop first COVID-19 rapid test for wastewater

McMaster researchers have developed the first COVID rapid test for community wastewater, which will make early warning surveillance of infectious diseases more accessible to remote communities in Canada and around the world. The low-cost test, which detects SARS-CoV-2 and its variants, is designed to be portable and easy to use in the field, providing results in less than an hour.

Office of the Vice-President, Research welcomes new Director, Research Security Risk

The Office of the Vice-President, Research (OVPR) is pleased to announce that Jessie Cumming has joined the OVPR as Director, Research Security Risk. In this role, Cumming will lead the VPR's efforts to examine, promote and advance security in research and innovation, international partnerships, and commercialization activities at the University by engaging with all levels of the University and Divisions, including the Digital Research Commons and leaders in IT Security, Risk Management, and Research Administration. She will provide advice to the VPR and senior leadership team on research security threats at a national level.

McMaster researchers awarded over \$24 million for climate and pandemic research

Two McMaster researchers have received funding through the Government of Canada's New Frontiers in Research Fund (NFRF) to advance renewable energy and post pandemic recovery research. Drew Higgins, assistant professor in the department of chemical engineering, is part of a [nationwide research project led by the University of Toronto](#), established to advance community-informed climate solutions. McMaster researcher Benson Honig received funding through the NFRF 2022 Special Call to mobilize Canadian-led research efforts in support of a more equitable, sustainable and resilient post-pandemic reality.

McMaster and the University of Birmingham launch seed fund to support collaborative research

McMaster University and the [University of Birmingham](#) (UoB) have partnered to establish a new seed fund that will support collaborative research projects at both institutions. To help support academic collaboration between the two world-leading universities, McMaster and UoB have established the BIRMAC Project and Ideas Fund: A seed fund created with matching funding from each university and designed to identify, establish and develop first-rate research projects and student outcomes.

ENGAGING LOCAL, NATIONAL, INDIGENOUS AND GLOBAL COMMUNITIES

Imagining 2080: Future of Canada forum will chart Canada's path forward

Since its inception in 2020, the Future of Canada Project (FCP) has sought to better understand the issues and opportunities facing Canada. Supported by a [generous gift from Chancellor Emeritus L.R. Wilson](#). The three-year pilot will culminate this November in *Imagining 2080: A Forum on Canada's Futures*. The forum, being held Nov. 1-3 in Hamilton, will provide a space for leaders across sectors and disciplines to imagine the possibilities for Canada in 2080 while identifying the key actions and changes needed to get there.

Students meet with Hamilton sustainability professionals to learn about green jobs

Students recently got this chance at a [Green Jobs Networking Event](#) hosted by the Academic Sustainability Programs Office where sustainability professionals working in and around Hamilton helped students learn about the breadth of sustainability careers. Sustainability professionals at the event included Ward 4 Hamilton City Councillor Tammy Hwang, a sustainability director working in the auto industry, an urban farmer and entrepreneur, a manager of community development and partnerships, a plastic campaigner working at the national level, an engineer working in water resources and urban systems, as well as a director advancing municipal climate change initiatives.

Bringing research to the community

The [McMaster Digital Transformation Research Centre](#) (MDTRC) has launched an innovative mobile user experience lab which will allow researchers to take their tools on the road — to go directly into local communities. This Mobile User-Experience Lab (MUXL) is uniquely designed to remove accessibility barriers for people that are typically underrepresented in research. The need to overcome this inclusion barrier, especially when it comes to older adults, was the primary inspiration for this new mobile lab.

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Shaping the Food System on McMaster's Campus

Community members are being invited to share their thoughts about the food system through a [new survey](#). The results of the survey will help in the creation of a [Campus Food Charter](#) that will inform future strategies and actions that can be taken by the university and stakeholder groups to foster food sovereignty. [McMaster's Okanagan Committee](#), with support from McMaster's Student Wellness Centre and Hospitality Services, and with direction from the McMaster Campus Food Council, has been working towards the creation of the Charter, which is expected to be formalized in Summer 2023.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ACCOLADES

Hamilton philanthropist Margaret Juravinski invests again in health research with new \$5.1-million gift

For the fourth year in a row, Margaret Juravinski and her late husband Charles “Charlie” Juravinski have made a substantial gift to the Juravinski Research Institute, a partnership between Hamilton Health Sciences, McMaster University and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton. This \$5.1-million gift will continue to support high-priority health research initiatives across the three partner institutions. Child and youth health and integrated care are the research themes for some of the newly funded projects.

Sadly, just weeks after making this generous gift, Margaret Juravinski passed away. [Read more](#) about the remarkable life, impact and philanthropy of Margaret Juravinski.

Four McMaster students selected as McCall MacBain International Fellows

Four McMaster students have been selected as McCall MacBain International Fellows, getting the opportunity to spend a fully funded year abroad studying, living and working in a new country. Dev Nayak, Misty Macdonald, Teagan Caulfield and Zachary Maretzki are among the 12 undergraduate students that make up the fourth cohort of the McCall MacBain International Fellows. Valued at up to \$30,000, the [Fellowship](#) is designed to provide students with the opportunity to learn a language, participate in a new community, build lasting international ties and deepen their ability to work in a different cultural context.

Two McMaster students awarded prestigious McCall MacBain Scholarships

McMaster students Abby Buller, BEng '23, and Jessie Meanwell, BSc '23, are among the recipients of this year's McCall MacBain Scholarships. Designed to encourage purposeful leadership, the McCall MacBain Scholarships enable 20 students from across Canada to pursue a fully funded master's or professional degree at McGill University, while participating in mentorship, coaching and a leadership

development program. The scholarships were established in 2019 with a \$200 million gift to McGill from McMaster graduate Marcy McCall MacBain BSc '00 and her husband, John McCall MacBain.

New \$1M gift supports graduate students in Biological anthropology

A recent gift from Victor Koloshuk, made in honour of his late wife, Shelly Saunders – a pillar of McMaster's Department of Anthropology – is augmenting the Shelley Saunders/Koloshuk Family Scholarship, which has supported promising McMaster PhD students in Biological Anthropology since 2008.

Science champion wins Gradflix competition

Emily Robson, a graduate student in the Department of Biology and a member of [Professor Karen Kidd's lab](#), is the winner of this year's GradFlix competition for her one-minute video on the amount of microplastics in freshwater mussels collected from Ontario's Grand River. The [annual video competition](#) is run by McMaster's School of Graduate Studies and open to all graduate students from across the university.

CONVOCATION

Meet McMaster's Spring 2023 honorary degree recipients

From serving as Africa's first elected female head of state, to making discoveries that transform our understanding of evolution, this year's McMaster University honorary degree recipients include some of the best and brightest in their respective fields. Honorees include former president of Liberia and Nobel laureate, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf and Honorary Board of Governors member and Group Head of Canadian Business Banking at TD Bank, Paul Douglas.

Convocation 2023: Creating a legacy of community

As Anu Popoola gets set to graduate from the Faculty of Health Sciences, she shares how giving back to her community helped enrich her undergraduate experience.

Convocation 2023: Finding a sense of belonging

Toluwalase Dayo-Olaide arrived at McMaster as a 16-year-old international student from Nigeria. His search for connection and community in his new country taught him a valuable life lesson he says he will take with him after he graduates from the Faculty of Science.

IN MEMORIAM

Remembering former Chair of the Board of Governors, T. Glen Chambers